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TRANSLATION OF FOREIGN OFFICE PRESS RELEASE, FEBRUARY 8, 1965.

In the course of the TV program on February 2, 1965, concerning Raoul Wallenberg the content was shown and recapitulated of an exchange of telegrams in April 1945 between the State Department in Washington and the American Embassies in Stockholm and Moscow regarding the possibility of American diplomatic support in the search for Wallenberg. The texts of the three messages which formed part of the exchange of telegrams and which have now been placed at the disposal of the Foreign Office are enclosed in translation.

By telegram of April 4, 1945, to the State Department the then American Ambassador in Stockholm, Herschel Johnson, requested that the American Embassy in Moscow support the Swedish Legation in Moscow in its efforts through the Soviet authorities to ascertain what had happened to Wallenberg. By telegram of April 9, 1945, the State Department instructed its Embassy in Moscow to render all necessary support to the Swedish Legation. The then American Ambassador in Moscow, Averell Harriman, reported by telegram of April 12, 1945, that the Swedish Legation had declared that it had no reason to believe that the Soviet authorities were not doing what they could in respect of this search, and that the Legation did not feel that an American approach to the Soviet Foreign Ministry would be desirable.

The telegrams reflect contacts which during the final stage of the war occurred between the Foreign Office and the American Embassy in Stockholm as well as between the Swedish and the American missions in Moscow concerning the search for Wallenberg then in progress. The Swedish Legation reported afterwards to the Foreign Office about the contacts in Moscow. The Legation stated in its report that the American Embassy in Moscow was believed to have replied to Herschel Johnson "that it presumed that the American representation in Hungary had been approached through the State Department. The Embassy otherwise is hardly likely to feel that anything was to be done for America's part".

As is seen from the Foreign Office White Paper on Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish demarche on the matter was made on April 25, 1945, to the Soviet authorities.

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